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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/510,310	10/06/2004	Ralph Hubert Peters	NL 020329	7470
24737	7590	12/22/2008		
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS				
P.O. BOX 3001				
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510				
EXAMINER				
CARTER, WILLIAM JOSEPH				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2875				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/22/2008		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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*Ex parte* RALPH HUBERT PETERS

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Application No. 10/510,310  
Technology Center 2800

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Mailed: December 22, 2008

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Before KAREN SWEENEY, *Paralegal Specialist*

SWEENEY, *Paralegal Specialist*.

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on November 3, 2008. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matters requiring attention prior to docketing.

EXAMINER'S CONSIDERATION OF REPLY BRIEF

A Reply Brief was filed on November 14, 2007, in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed September 21, 2007.

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §41.43 states:

(a)(1)... the primary examiner must acknowledge receipt and entry of the reply brief. In addition, the primary examiner may withdraw the final rejection and reopen prosecution or may furnish a supplemental examiner's answer responding to any new issue raised in the reply brief.

The Communication mailed January 25, 2008, was an improper acknowledgment of the Reply Brief, as it constitutes a Supplemental Examiner's Answer as per MPEP§ 1208, part II. A Supplemental Examiner's Answers requires a Director or designees approval.

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CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) vacate the Communication mailed January 25, 2008;
- 2) generate and mail either:

a) a revised Communication properly acknowledging to the Reply Brief dated November 14, 2007 in accordance with MPEP§ 1208, part II.; or

b) issue a Supplemental Examiner's Answer with the required signature (Technology Center Director or designee), if appropriate; and

3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

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